
**TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP
of the
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**January 26, 2010
Minutes**

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP. AN AUDIOCASSETTE TAPE OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.

The Meeting of the Transportation Conformity Working Group was held at the SCAG office in Los Angeles.

In Attendance:

Abrishami, Lori	LACMTA
Brotcke, Kurt	OCTA
Chyn, Wenn	City of Los Angeles
Holguin, Lee	URS Corporation
Kulkarni, Anup	OCTA
Medina, Shirley	Riverside County Transportation Commission
Moore, Linda	City of Los Angeles
Smolke, Brian	OCTA
Walecka, Carla	TCA

SCAG

Asuncion, John
Luo, Rongsheng
Nadler, Jonathan
Sangkapichai, Mana
Sherwood, Arnie

Via Teleconference:

Brady, Kathleen	Bon Terra Consulting
Brady, Mike	Caltrans Headquarters
Cacatian, Ben	VCAPCD
David, Kris	City of Los Angeles
Drummonds, Eyvonne	SCAQMD
Estrada, Romeo	Caltrans, District 12
Fagan, Paul	Caltrans, District 8
Gallo, Ilene	Caltrans Headquarters
Gardiam, Solush	URS Corporation
Hill, Shannon	ICF International
Jones, Matt	Mestre Greve Associates
Karis, Kutuma	URS Corporation
Mahdavi, Sarvy	EPA Region 9
Morcis, David	RBF consulting

**TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP
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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**January 26, 2010
Minutes**

O'Connor, Karina	U.S. EPA, Region 9
Odufalu, Olufemi	Caltrans, District 8
Tax, Wienke	EPA Region 9
Torres, Eddie	RBF Consulting
Williams, Leann	Caltrans, District 7
Yoon, Andrew	Caltrans, District 7

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Shirley Medina, RCTC, called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no comments.

3.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 Approval Item

3.1.1 TCWG December 1, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Clarification: Under Item 4.6 Air Districts Update/VCAPCD, only the motor vehicle emissions budgets of the Ventura County 8-hour Early Progress Plan were found adequate for conformity.

The minutes were approved with the above clarification.

4.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

4.1 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms

1) LA0C8086

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.
(FHWA concurrence was received after the meeting).

2) LA0D390

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.
(FHWA concurrence was received after the meeting).

**TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP
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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**January 26, 2010
Minutes**

In response to TCWG comments, the project sponsor will provide additional information to: 1) clarify the relationship between this project and LA0F030 and; and 2) show improvements in overall delay and emissions when combining these two projects.

3) LA0F030

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

(FHWA concurrence was received after the meeting).

In response to TCWG comments, the project sponsor will provide additional information to: 1) clarify the relationship between this project and LA0D390; and 2) show improvements in overall delay and emissions when combining these two projects.

4) ORA030612

In response to TCWG comments, the project sponsor will provide additional information on emissions from additional stops and starts by diesel commuter trains and an analysis of their impact, if any, on the residents living adjacent to the tracks.

5) ORA2A0803

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

(FHWA concurrence was received after the meeting).

6) SBD200435

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

(FHWA concurrence was received after the meeting).

4.2 Review of PM Hot Spot Qualitative Analyses

SBD20061201 I-15/I-215 Interchange

The project sponsor will follow up and address the following TCWG comments:

1. Need additional information, either in the report or cover letter, on which alternative is chosen and its emission reduction. Alternative 3a was suggested as a preferred alternative. Alternatives 2 and 3a are acceptable because they show a design decrease from no project for PM.

2. Sponsor letter head would be sufficient for the additional documentation. If EA already done identifying locally prefer alternative, the document could be used.

3. The locally preferred alternative is acceptable from the emission standpoint based on the report. However, some of alternatives in the report do not reduce emissions

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**January 26, 2010
Minutes**

compared to no project. Thus, the judgment would not hold if the alternative will be changed in the future to a different alternative that either increases emissions compared to no project or has not been analyzed.

4.3 TCM Substitution Request

Kurt Brotcke, OCTA, presented an overview of OCTA's request to substitute three TCM projects – the bus rapid transit (BRT) lines on Bristol Street/State College Blvd. (ORA110501), Harbor Blvd. (ORA120531), and Westminster Ave./17th St. (ORA120532) with traffic synchronization projects on the same three corridors. Anup Kulkarni, OCTA, gave a presentation on the methodology and results of the emissions analysis for the proposed TCM substitutions.

In response to comments from TCWG members, OCTA will provide additional information regarding funding and legal authority to implement the substitution TCM projects.

4.4 RTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- 2011 FTIP submittals were due the week of January 25.
- 2008 RTP Amendment #2/ and 2008 RTIP Amendment #24 were approved on January 22.
- All 2008 RTIP Amendments through #30 have been approved with the only exception of Amendment #28 which was under federal review for approval.
- 2008 RTIP Amendment #31 was also under federal review for approval.
- 2008 RTIP Amendments #32-34 were under analysis by SCAG staff.

4.5 RTP Update

Jonathan Nadler, SCAG, reported the following:

- SCAG received about 300 projects from five County Transportation Commissions (CTCs) for 2008 RTP Amendment #3.
- Staff continued working to get relevant information from CTCs and to perform conformity analyses for the Amendment.
- Staff planned to ask the SCAG Transportation Committee to release the document in February.

4.6 SB 375 Update

Jonathan Nadler, SCAG, reported that SCAG continues its extensive public outreach process.

**TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP
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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**January 26, 2010
Minutes**

4.7 ARB UPDATE

No update.

4.8 EPA Update

No update.

4.9 Air Districts Update

SCAQMD

Eyvonne Drummonds, SCAQMD, reported that SCAQMD had submitted to ARB:

- 1) the PM10 redesignation requests and maintenance plans for South Coast Air Basin (SCAB) and Coachella Valley;
- 2) revisions to the ozone and PM2.5 motor vehicle emissions budgets for SCAB to reflect mobile source rules recently adopted by ARB through 2008; and
- 3) revisions to the ozone budgets for Coachella Valley to reflect mobile source rules recently adopted by ARB through 2008.

VCAPCD

No update.

5.0 **INFORMATION SHARING**

EPA will hold a public hearing for the proposed rule, "Reconsideration of the 2008 National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Ozone." The hearings will be held in Sacramento, California, on Thursday, February 4, 2010.

SCAG welcomed and introduced Mana Sangkapichai as a new air quality and modeling staff member. Mr. Sangkapichai will provide staff support to TCWG as part of his assignments.

6.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

Shirley Medina adjourned the meeting at 11: 10 a.m.

The next Transportation Conformity Working Group meeting will be held on February 23, 2010 at the SCAG office in Los Angeles.